

MABEL NORMAND SAW TAYLOR JUST BEFORE HE DIED

EVIDENCE SHOWS THAT

Taylor's Chauffeur Declares He Called His Employer at 7:55 and Could Get No Response; Miss Normand Says She Left the Director at 7:30; Report of Quarrel.

Los Angeles, Feb. 8.—The location of Mabel Normand and Mary Miles Minter's letters to Wm. Desmond Taylor, the murdered film director, the possible issuance of a complaint charging murder against Edward F. Sands, Taylor's missing former butler-secretary, and renewed activity toward the declarations that the sweetheart of the motion screen actress was seen near Taylor's apartments the night of the murder were angles of the police investigation today.

Th letters written to Taylor by Miss Normand and for which she searched his apartments vainly two days after the murder have been returned to her, police stated. The return was made it was declared by a man connected with the film world who had taken them for some unknown purpose during the confusion surrounding the finding of the body and who had been threatened with a grand jury investigation.

Captain of detectives, David L. Adams, stated the police never had been in possession of Miss Normand's letters nor those written by Miss Minter to Taylor although the letters have also been returned to the latter. Miss Minter has guards around her house to keep away uninvited callers as she is ill. Her attorney denied she had received the letters.

A quarrel between Taylor and Mabel Normand was described by Harry Fellows, chauffeur for Taylor, according to the Los Angeles Examiner today.

"I was driving Mr. Taylor and Miss Normand from the Ambassador Hotel where they had attended a New Year's Eve's party to her home," Fellows is reported to have said. "On the way they had a quarrel. I do not know what it was about, but

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COMPILE EXPENSES SPECIAL SESSION

Total Expenses Run the Figures to \$28,589.05; Dropped Committee Clerks and Lessened Expenses.

(By Max Abernethy.)

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—Correction of the error made by the Senate clerk in the 1921 Legislature through a special session last December cost the State exactly \$1,905.93 per day for the fifteen days sitting.

The total cost, actual expenses as compiled by State Auditor Baxter Durham, runs the figures to \$28,589.05. These are the figures available in the auditor's office for warrants issued by that department upon the treasurer and includes salaries of House and Senate members, clerk hire, stenographers, printing of bills and all incidental expenditures while the legislators were in session.

Because the special session dropped all committee clerks it was thought the expenditures would be held down considerably but as compared with regular sessions the expenses were more for the extraordinary session than the regular meetings. Heretofore the sixty days sessions have cost around \$100,000. The 1921 session cost a few hundred dollars less than that figure, which was, in round figures, \$15,000 per day. Consequently law-making at the special session was more expensive than at the regular bi-ennial session.

CHARRED BODY IS TAKEN FROM RUIN OF BURNED HOTEL

FOUR KNOWN DEAD

It is Believed That One of the Injured is Fatally Hurt; Seventeen Persons Are Reported as Still Missing; Six Have Reported That They Were Safe.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 8.—A charred body, burned beyond recognition, the first taken from the ruins, since the Lexington hotel was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning was found by workmen this morning. This brings the known dead from the fire to 4. The local police department reported after a careful reckoning of the guests in the Lexington hotel, it was found 17 persons still are missing. The list the police state was compiled from a card index system taken from the hotel records. The department announced today that six persons reported they were safe. They are B. H. Jones, B. A. Smith, A. B. Fittz, J. R. Nelson, J. F. Blue and J. E. Scott.

According to the latest information from the hospital's 28 persons are listed as injured. It is understood that a very small proportion of these are seriously hurt and those fatally injured will not be more than one at the most.

The list of missing included:

C. C. Eberly, address unknown; E. S. Harold, address not given; E. O. Taylor, North Carolina; C. W. Hawthorne, address not given; Mathias, address not given; C. B. Bowles, address not known.

UNIONISTS KIDNAPPED

Belfast, Feb. 8.—A large number of leading ministers of the counties of Fermanagh and Tyrone in the Ulster area were kidnapped from their homes early today and taken to unknown destinations. Fifteen arrests have been made in connection with the kidnapping.

The raiders are believed to have come from the counties of Cavan and Longford near the border. The forces known as the "B Specials" were mobilized today in Tyrone and Fermanagh and rushed to the scene of the kidnapping. The Ulster government announced its intention of taking drastic measures.

JAPAN STOPS NAVY WORK

Tokio, Feb. 8.—The navy department has ordered dock yards to stop the construction on eight battleships and eight cruisers which are to be scrapped according to the terms of the arms conference.

The construction of auxiliary craft set for the fiscal year 1924-1925 will be advanced to the present in order to afford employment for dock yard workers.

GENERAL NFWS

Dawson Lovett, Confederate veteran, aged 100 years and 26 days, is dead at his home in Robeson county.

The body of a woman, resembling Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, found floating in the Potomac river, was not that of the former actress, who has been located in New York.

The Guilford county commissioners will sell one million dollars worth of Guilford county road bonds on March fifteenth.

Pope Plus XI has declared he was profoundly distressed and disappointed that America was not represented at the conclave which elected him on Monday.

BIG LINER BURNED ON THE ATLANTIC NO LOSS OF LIFE

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC

Steamer Was Being Taken by a Skeleton Crew to Dry Dock at Chester, Pa., When She Caught Fire; Crew Was Saved; Crashed in Sand Bar Once, Soldiers Aboard.

New York, Feb. 8.—The former transport Northern Pacific—which last claimed head lines in 1919 when she crashed into a sand bar off Fire Island with 3,000 American soldiers she was bringing back from France—today was destroyed by fire 40 miles off Cape May, N. J.

A crackle of the radio early this morning brought word that fire had broken out aboard the swift steamer and that she was a mass of flames. Later messages reported she had been abandoned by Capt. Wm. Lusti and her skeleton crew which were taking her to dry dock in Chester, Pa. The rescue of all her crew by steamships which had rushed to the scene was next reported.

The next message stated the vessel was blazing fiercely and listing hard to starboard and drifting south-eastward.

MARKETS

COTTON.

New York, Feb. 8.—Cotton futures opened steady, March 16.73, May 16.48, July 16.10, Oct. 15.49 Dec. 15.43.

New York, Feb. 8.—The cotton market opened firm at an advance of from 8 to 19 points with the active months showing net gains of from 17 to 23 points on better Liverpool cables and continued firmness of foreign exchange. There was considerable realizing at the advance, while Liverpool was a moderate seller on straddle accounts and some Japanese selling was also reported. The market however showed a very steady tone during the early trading at 16.11 for July.

LIVERPOOL CLOSED

Mar. 9.40, May 9.39, July 9.35, Oct. 9.09, Dec. 8.99.

N. Y. COTTON OPENED

Mar. 16.79, May 16.51, July 16.13, Oct. 15.54, Dec. 15.45.

N. Y. COTTON CLOSED.

March 17.08, May 16.80, July 16.42, Oct. 15.75.

12 O'CLOCK MARKET

Mar. 16.94, May 16.64, July 16.22, Oct. 15.62, Dec. 15.50. Spots Wilson market 15c.

CHICAGO GRAIN OPENED

Wheat, May 1.28 1-4, July 1.11. Corn, May 57 7-8, July 60 1-8. Oats, May 40, July 41 1-4.

GRAIN.

Chicago, Feb. 8.—A decline of 1 1-2 to 2 1-2 fence in Liverpool market caused renewed selling in wheat at the opening and first prices were 1-2 to 7-8 cents lower.

There was a disposition to place a bearish interpretation on the fact that cash prices haven't kept pace with futures but on the whole sentiment continued to favor higher prices. Later buying brought about a quarter advance. Corn and oats followed other markets but displayed a rather easy undertone. Provisions firm.

STOCKS.

New York, Feb. 8.—Shorts put out fresh lines at the opening of today's stock market, but the bull pools continued their activities in the various specialties. United States Food Products which was thrown into bankruptcy yesterday recorded a further decline of 1 1-8 points to 2 3-4 points a new low record. The coppers, tobaccos, low priced motors and rails forfeited large fractions.

DR. HUBERT WORK IS SURE TO FILL MR. HAYS' PLACE

OTHER RUMORS ABROAD

There is a Suggestion That Secretary Fall is Anxious to Retire to Private Life and There is Talk of Putting up Harry New if He Does Not Go Back to the Senate.

(By David Lawrence.)
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Washington, Feb. 7.—As the time draws near for Postmaster General Hays to leave the Cabinet, the word from administration sources is that Dr. Hubert Work, assistant postmaster general, will be appointed in his stead. This disposes of rumors which for the past week have been current that Charles H. Hilles, former private secretary to President Taft and national Republican committeeman from New York State, might be induced to succeed Will Hays.

From the viewpoint of knowledge of the postoffice department, Dr. Work was immediately considered as the best man to take hold of the job, and carry forward the many reforms instituted by Will Hays. From the political viewpoint, Dr. Work was regarded as acceptable because as national Republican committeeman from Colorado he had had an experience in politics and that's important in handling members of congress who besiege the postmaster general's office all the time.

But aside from this a movement got under way to place Mr. Hilles in Cabinet because of his long experience in Republican politics. Mr. Hilles was in Washington the other day and, in fact, whenever he comes, he exhibits an influence with the Harding Administration which indicates that the New York state Republican organization is working in close accord with the party chieftains here.

It is known that the discussion of whether Mr. Hilles would take the postmaster generalship if offered turned entirely upon his business connections. His friends say that his decision is today the same as it was a year ago when he visited President elect Harding, namely that he is unable for some time to come to disassociate himself from his business.

On the other hand, the chances of a vacancy in the Cabinet more to the liking of Mr. Hilles may occur any day. Rumors of changes in the Cabinet have for some time been current without a logical basis but the soldier bonus agitation has at least made a clear cut issue between Secretary of the Treasury Mellon and President Harding. If Mr. Mellon is overruled on his views against the imposition of a tax or bond sale to raise funds for a soldier bonus, political sharps here believe he will not wish to stay longer in public life.

There have been men in previous Cabinets who have surrounded their convictions and gone along in ways more or less subservient to their chiefs or to Congress and there have been men who have resigned when they felt their judgment was no longer effective. Talk of a resignation by Mr. Mellon has persisted since his views on the best ways of raising revenue were swept aside by separate agreement between President Harding and Chairman Fordney of the House committee on Ways and Means.

Another Cabinet change which keeps cropping up in the gossip is that of Secretary Fall of New Mexico who is reported as anxious to retire to private life. The West has always claimed this portfolio though lately there has been talk of appointing Senator Harry New to the post if he failed in his race for renomination in Indiana.

Much of the talk about putting Harry New in the Cabinet, however, emanates directly from his political friends.

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TESTIFY THAT MEN WENT INTO BATTLE WITHOUT GAS MASK

FORM OF PUNISHMENT

There Was Testimony that a Negro Soldier Was Hung Because He Was Going With a French Girl and White Soldiers Did Not Like the Idea. This From Negro Witness.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Further efforts were made today by the senate committee investigating charges that American soldiers were hanged without trial in France to clear up the alleged shooting of a soldier by a firing squad near Chateau Thierry in July, 1918.

Geo. W. Yarbrough, a high school teacher of Roanoke, Ala., who recently testified he was an eye witness to the shooting was described by Capt. E. B. Edwards of Fort Sill, Okla., his commanding officer as a soldier above the average, whose general reputation was excellent. Answering Senator Watson Capt. Edwards declared Yarbrough was a good man, and he would not hesitate to believe what he said under oath. Captain Edwards and other officers attached to the Yarbrough was a good man, and he ever they never heard of the shooting either from the Alabama teacher or others and they did not believe such an execution could not have taken place without word reaching them.

The shooting of Wm. Fauntleroy, a negro acting as corporal, by a marine guard which was taking him to prison at St. Nazaire for being drunk was testified to by W. L. Davis, a negro of Savannah, Ga.

"Fauntleroy was so drunk he could not stand on his feet," said Davis. "The guards took him by the arms. Just after they started we heard a shot, the guards saying the negro attempted to attack them. But he was too drunk and the next day they had a military funeral for him."

Phillip Bell, a negro of Memphis, Tenn., about as big as a jockey, was called.

"Did you see a hanging at Issurville?" Senator Watson asked.

"Yes."

"What did they hang him to?"

"A limb."

Before being lynched the negro was arrested by a mob of white men Bell said.

"What did they arrest him for?"

"The only thing I know why they arrested him was to kill him."

Pressed by the chairman Bell said the negro was lynched because "he was going with a French girl and white soldiers got sore." When the negro was cut down Bell said he decided he'd better leave the scene while leaving was good.

Charges that three soldiers in Company I, 15th Infantry were sent to the front line without gas masks as punishment for being A. W. O. L. was made by Norris Bowen of Georgia.

"Who issued the orders?"

"I can't say but the company commander was Capt. R. C. Van Fleet. There was no gas at the time, and the men later were given masks. So far as I know they came out as safe as they went in."

SOLDIER BONUS BY TAXATION

Washington, Feb. 8.—Funds for the soldier bonus would be raised through taxation under the present plan of majority members of the House Ways and Means Committee, according to information given after those members had discussed the bonus.

It was stated it was not the purpose to depend on any part of the interest or principal of the foreign debts.

Miss Sallie Ruffin of Maxwellton, Va., is spending a few days with Mrs. E. G. Rawlings.

OTHER OFFERS ON MUSCLE SHOALS COME TO WEEKS

NOT MADE PUBLIC

Mr. Weeks is Anxious to Secure a Guarantee from Mr. Ford to Manufacture Fertilizer as he Feels Sure the Public Will be Disappointed Without it.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Secretary Weeks appearing today as the first witness in the hearing before the House Committee in Military Affairs on the offer of Henry Ford to purchase and operate the Muscle Shoals, Ala., nitrate project announced he expected to forward "two other offers for Muscle Shoals" to Congress before the end of the week.

One of the offers, said Mr. Weeks was a "verbal statement from another responsible company which offered to complete the Wilson dam at its own expense. No written offer had been made, but his belief was that one probably would be. He did not name the individual or company making the offer.

Referring to the manufacture of fertilizer, Mr. Weeks said he believed Mr. Ford "was very largely groping in the dark."

"The interest in this matter," he continued "is due to the large numbers of people who believe they will get cheap fertilizer."

The secretary said Mr. Ford has told him he would not continue over a given number of years to manufacture fertilizer or to do so at all under loss, think," said Mr. Weeks "a forfeit should be imposed to apply in the event the manufacture of this commodity is stopped. If that happens a great many people would be disappointed."

In reply to Mr. Kahn, Mr. Weeks said Mr. Ford has made a statement that he would not make fertilizer at a loss during an interview with him on Oct. 11. The secretary said in his opinion it was as important to have interest paid the government for money it would expend to obtain land and flowage rights under the contract as it was to have interest paid on money required to complete the dams.

"It is estimated by army engineers that two million dollars will be required to acquire lands and rights involved," said Mr. Weeks, answering questions from Mr. Kahn. Secretary Weeks said the government had spent seven million on the nitrate plants for which Mr. Ford offers five million dollars.

The secretary says a fifty year lease would be a much wiser policy than one for one hundred years as offered by Mr. Ford because "all kinds of things can happen in a hundred years."

PICKETERS FIGHT STRIKEBREAKERS

One is Killed and Others Hurt When Attempt is Made to Break Strike.

Yorkville, O., Feb. 8.—At least one was killed and others wounded in a fight at the plant of the Wheeling Steel corporation here. The plant resumed operations here yesterday after being shut down since last July when the company and amalgamated association of iron, steel and tin workers were unable to reach an agreement.

The company recently brought in workers from the outside and it was stated three mills had been put in operation.

As the men were leaving the mills the employees met a number of pickets and a fight ensued.